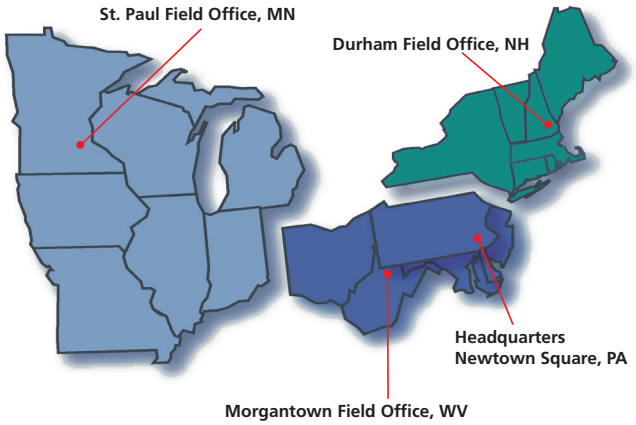
NA S&PF **programs are cost effective** and concentrate on outcomes. Our workforce is small and administrative costs are low. About 80 percent of Federal funds allocated to NA S&PF go directly to delivering programs. Every Federal dollar spent leverages another $10 through cost-sharing and matching grants.

Forestry ranks fourth in economic impact on State economies in the Northeast and Midwest. NA S&PF addresses economic obstacles to owning forest land and forest-related businesses, for example, by...

- Providing tax and estate planning information to landowners, tax preparers, and professional foresters;
- Expanding markets for wood products, such as finding new uses for low-grade wood;
- Fostering the use of wood in transportation projects, such as bridges and guardrails; and
- Supporting training and business opportunities for the woodworking industry.

NA S&PF carries on **a legacy of conservation**. It administers Grey Towers National Historic Site—the home of former Forest Service Chief Gifford Pinchot, now a conference center for natural resource organizations, and a base for local educational outreach programs. NA S&PF also supports conservation education programs of States and nonprofit organizations, to help a new generation develop appreciation and understanding of natural resources.



For more information, contact:

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Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry At a Glance

Caring for the Land and Serving People

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

NA-IN-07-06
April 2006

The ***State and Private Forestry*** branch of the ***USDA Forest Service*** promotes sustainable management of non-Federal forest lands, which make up two-thirds of the forests in the United States. This work supports the Forest Service's role as steward of the Nation's forests and ensures that private forests yield public benefits. Among these benefits are clean air, drinking water, wildlife habitat, wood products, and recreational opportunities.

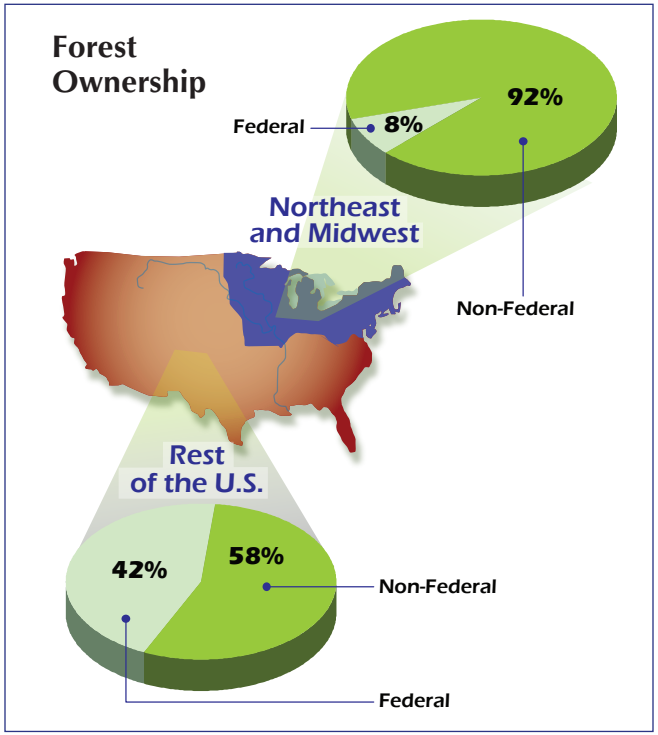
The Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (NA S&PF) works with the 20 Northeastern and Midwest States and the District of Columbia, helping landowners manage their forests.

The reason for NA S&PF in this geographic region is that it contains about 43 percent of the Nation's population and 23 percent of the forest, most of which is privately owned. This intermingling of communities and forests creates unique challenges to forest sustainability.

In keeping with our mission of **caring for the land and serving people**, our work encompasses a broad spectrum of activities including these:

- *Protecting, enhancing, and restoring forested watersheds that supply drinking water,*
- *Detecting and suppressing or eradicating diseases and pests that damage trees,*
- *Training and supplying volunteer fire departments, particularly in rural areas*
- *Improving the natural elements of the urban forest to make communities more livable,*
- *Protecting forests from development, subdivision, and fragmentation.*

We work with partners, particularly State forestry organizations. Partnerships allow us to be adaptive and flexible in caring for forest resources, and position us to capitalize on needs and opportunities where and when they arise. Our partners match or exceed our investments in natural resource management.



Twenty-three percent of all U.S. forests are in the Northeast and Midwest, and most of these have non-Federal owners.

We use nonregulatory approaches, such as information sharing, technical expertise, and financial assistance. The following are some examples:

The **Forest Legacy Program** helps States and nonprofit partners purchase conservation easements on forest land.

As part of the **Cooperative Fire Program**, NA S&PF coordinates training in the Incident Command System—developed for fighting wildfires and used to organize resources responding to other emergencies and natural disasters.

Through the **Forest Stewardship Program**, a forestry professional helps an individual private forest owner develop and carry out a management plan that meets their goals for their land.

The **Forest Health Management Program** includes monitoring and reporting on forest conditions, including invasive plants and insects.

One aspect of **Urban and Community Forestry** is disseminating information on tree planting and care, and on identifying hazardous trees that pose a risk to people or property.